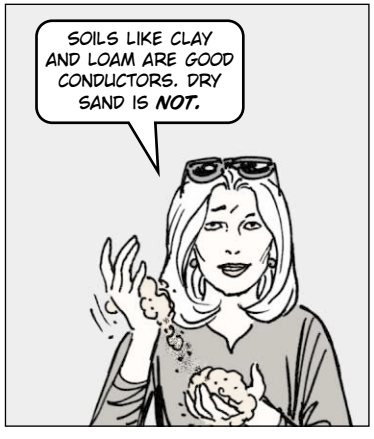
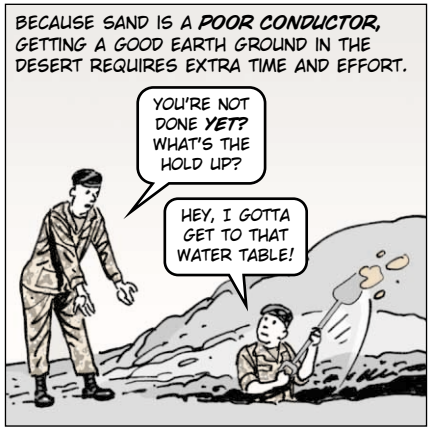
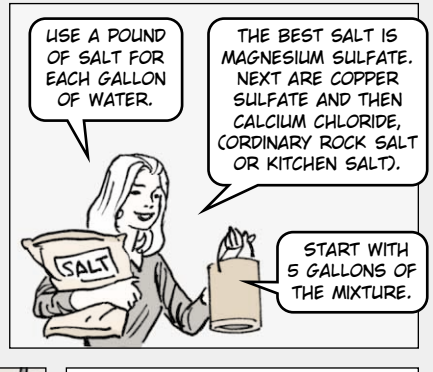
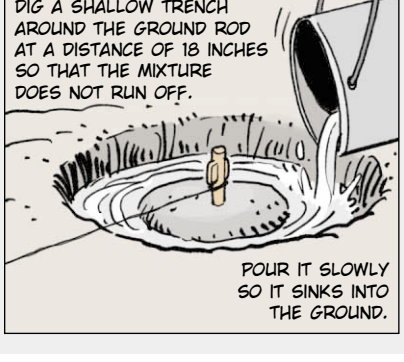
GROUNDING IN THE DESERT

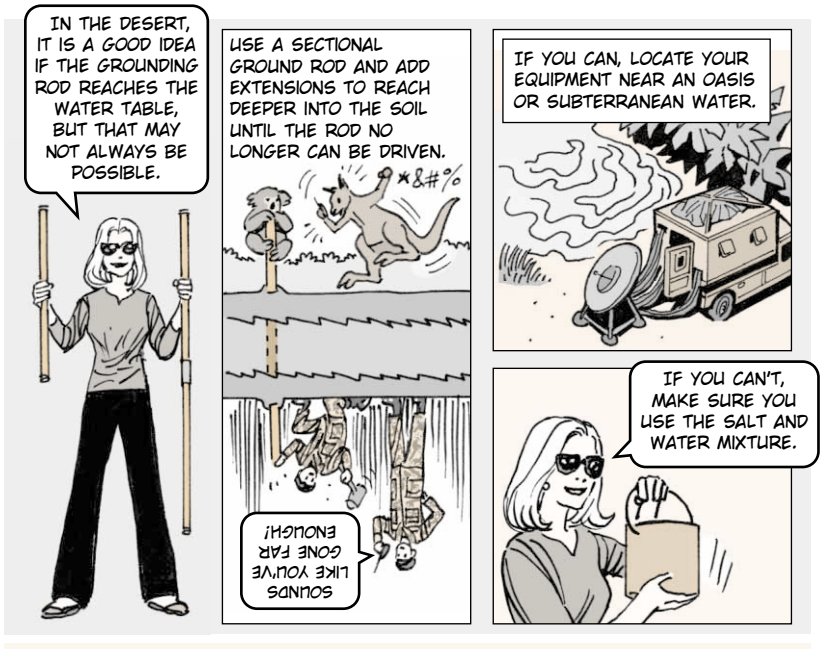




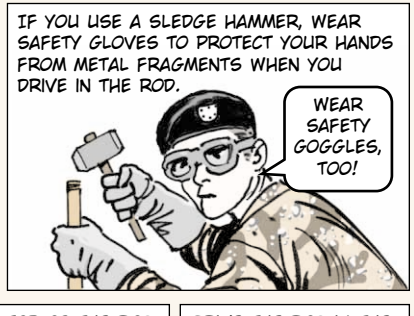
Prepare the Soil

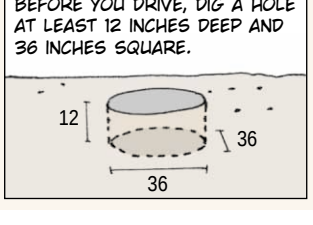


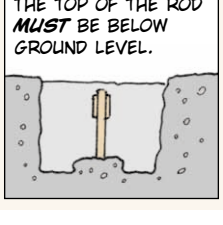




Before You Drive







DRIVE THE ROD IN THE CENTER OF THE HOLE. DRIVE IT STRAIGHT. IF THE SOIL ***WON'T*** PERMIT THE ROD TO GO IN STRAIGHTLY, MAKE SURE THE DRIVING ANGLE IS ***NO MORE*** THAN 45 DEGREES.

LEAVE ABOUT 3 INCHES OF THE ROD SECTION ABOVE THE RIM OF THE HOLE. WHEN ADDING ROD EXTENSIONS MAKE SURE EACH SECTION IS TIGHTLY CONNECTED TO THE PREVIOUS ONE.

IF THEY'RE ***NOT*** TIGHT, WHEN YOU DRIVE IN THE ROD, YOU'LL ***DAMAGE*** THE COUPLING SLEEVE THREADS.

DON'T HIT THE THREADED END OF THE ROD WITH THE HAMMER. THIS WILL ***DAMAGE*** THE THREADS, TOO.

DON'T DAMAGE THE THREADS, MAN!

USE A DRIVING BOLT ON THE TOP SECTION AND MAKE SURE IT'S TIGHT. A LOOSE BOLT WILL BREAK OFF.

IF POSSIBLE, USE A ***DRIVING HAMMER*** WHEN INSTALLING A SECTIONED GROUND ROD.

SLIDE HAMMER, NSN 5120-01-013-1676, MAKES IT EASIER TO DRIVE RODS, AND EASIER TO GET THEM OUT, TOO.

FOR DRIVING RODS INTO ***VERY HARD*** DESERT GROUND, USE A 12-LB SLEDGE HAMMER, NSN 5120-00-293-0887.

IF YOU CANNOT REACH THE WATER TABLE WITH A SINGLE GROUND ROD OR ONE WITH EXTENSIONS, USE MULTIPLE GROUNDS AND THE SALT-WATER MIXTURE.

DRIVE IN THE ADDITIONAL RODS TWO TO FOUR ROD LENGTHS APART.

IF ***THREE*** RODS ARE USED, DRIVE THEM IN A TRIANGULAR PATTERN.

IF ***MORE THAN FOUR*** RODS ARE USED, PUT THEM IN A STRAIGHT LINE OR A STAR PATTERN, WHICH WORKS WELL IN THE DESERT.

WHEN USING MULTIPLE RODS ***ALWAYS*** CONNECT ALL THE RODS TOGETHER, THE FINAL ROD BEING CONNECTED TO THE EQUIPMENT TO BE GROUNDED.

IF YOU CAN'T DRIVE A GROUND ROD MORE THAN 4 FEET, DIG A HOLE, ADD THE SALT-WATER MIXTURE AND THEN BURY THE ROD HORIZONTALLY ALMOST 1¼ FEET DEEP.

GROUND ROD ASSEMBLY, NSN 5975-00-878-3791, COMES WITH...

Rods 5975-00-878-3791

Couplings 5975-00-794-2523

No.6 AWG wire 6145-00-395-8799

Terminal lug 5940-00-271-9504

Drive/head stud 5975-00-924-9927

Clamp 5999-00-186-3912

Grounding Plates

SINCE SAND IS EASY TO MOVE, ***GROUNDING PLATES*** CAN BE A GOOD IDEA IN THE DESERT.

THEY ALSO GIVE YOU A LARGE, METALLIC AREA THAT IS IN CONTACT WITH THE SOIL. THE GROUND PLATES—USE TWO TO FOUR—SHOULD BE SPACED AT LEAST 10 FEET APART.

TO MAKE A GROUND PLATE, START WITH A CLEAN, COPPER OR STEEL PLATE OR SHEET ¼ INCH THICK.

THE PLATE SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST 3 SQUARE FEET OF SURFACE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND. THE LARGER THE PLATE, THE LOWER THE RESISTANCE AND THE BETTER THE GROUND.

ALONG WITH THE PLATE YOU'LL NEED A ***METAL BOLT, NUT*** AND ***LOCK WASHER*** TO ATTACH THE GROUND WIRE.

DRILL A HOLE IN THE CENTER OF THE PLATE JUST LARGE ENOUGH FOR THE BOLT. DIG A HOLE SO THAT THE PLATE CAN BE BURIED VERTICALLY, THE TOP EDGE ABOUT 5 FEET BELOW THE SURFACE.

IT'S EASIER TO BURY THE PLATE VERTICALLY AND STILL ENSURE GOOD SOIL CONTACT ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PLATE.

POUR YOUR MIXTURE OF WATER AND SALT INTO THE SOIL AROUND THE PLATE TO FURTHER INCREASE CONDUCTIVITY.